



## **CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION WEEKLY UPDATE FOR THE WEEK OF January 26, 2009**

### **Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources Career Cluster**

Just like in all the other CTE areas, this is a crazy chaotic time of the year for Agriculture Education. The winter meeting and congressional breakfast was held this past week here in Helena. The breakfast with the legislators went VERY well, as did the winter meeting. Among other items of business was the adoption of state content standards.

Thursday night, January 22<sup>nd</sup>, we held a meeting of the Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources Pathways Advisory Committee. The committee reviewed the model pathways that are under development and will be published/released to schools on February 15<sup>th</sup>.

The Agriculture Teacher Mentoring Program participants met also on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. This is the second year of the teacher Mentoring Program.

The National Agriculture Education Summit will be held in Indianapolis from February 5<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>. Representing Montana at the conference will be Dr. Igo, Bill Jimmerson, Ramey Lunceford, Chad Massar and Brad King.

While I am certainly not encouraging teachers to leave or change their jobs, I would ask all of you, if you are considering moving to another school or leaving the profession, please let me know as soon as you can. The sooner I know, the sooner I can help in finding another teacher to fill the opening.

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## **Business, Management and Information Systems Cluster**

No updated news this week. A report on the Business, Management and Information Systems cluster will be included on the next CTE Update.

Respectfully submitted,

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## **Health Sciences Career Cluster**

### **Health Sciences Technology Education Update**

The National Consortium for Health Science Technology Education (NCHSTE) developed a comprehensive National Skills Assessment for secondary students in a Health Science Program of Study.

We are working with our Tech Prep partners and two year colleges across the state to use this assessment for articulation purposes. Students passing this test with a 75% or better will automatically receive college credit for their health science coursework.

Montana Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) Chapters are participating in "Alliance for Health- Day on the Hill" on Tuesday, Feb. 3rd at the State Capitol. Students will be highlighting their competitive events and service projects and meeting with legislators to spread the word about building the Healthcare Pipeline for the Future.

For questions on establishing a health science program in your high school, please contact:

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## **Family and Consumer Sciences Education Human Services & Resources Career Cluster**

There is no updated news this week. The first Human Services Development Group meeting is happening on January 27<sup>th</sup> in Helena. A report on the progress of this meeting will be included on the next CTE update.

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## **Industrial, Manufacturing & Engineering Systems Cluster**

**A Big Sky Pathways Committee meeting was held on January 20, 2009. Members in attendance:** Kevin Brockbank, Linda Corr-Mahugh, Cleo Sutton, David Strong, Curly Burns, and Don Michalsky.

Common course requirements for Automotive Technology, Diesel Technology, and Welding Technology were reviewed and discussed. Introduction to Computers CAPP 120 is considered to be a common course. A course of study is considered a common course for dual credits/tech prep if 5 of the learning outcomes or 80% of the objectives are the same. Don recommended Shop Safety to be a dual credit/tech prep course as Montana has more workforce injuries than other states.

Linda shared an outline to provide members a perspective on the transferability initiative and a timeline of matrices that have already been approved as common courses for dual credit/tech prep, those with works-in-progress, work to begin in January-February, deadlines for Construction and Healthcare Trades and other two-year programs. More information can be obtained by logging onto the website [www.mus.edu](http://www.mus.edu).

Linda handed out copies of a model developed by MCIS (Montana Career Information System) for Big Sky Pathways, which is a web-based tool that can be used by parents and students for career exploration and planning. SELT has adopted MCIS as a tool for Pathways.

Curly proposed putting together an OSHA-10 class as a summer professional development program. Don and Cleo volunteered to put together a fully funded two-day program for teachers to attend and provide them an opportunity to earn one credit. The program would consist of 2 parts. The first part would be an OSHA-10 safety course and the second part would offer training as an instructor for OSHA-10. The course would be offered between June 10 and June 30 in 8 to 9 sites around the state.

Committee membership: The consensus is that we cannot ask all committee members to commit to a work meeting until the transferability product is completed.

Kevin asked what steps need to be taken to keep the Pathways project moving along. Linda explained the next step is to indentify and categorize postsecondary opportunities in each pathway.

The next Big Sky Pathway Meeting is scheduled for February 24, 2009.

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